

IN THE SPECIFICATION

After paragraph [0023] of the original specification, please insert the following paragraph:

[0024] FIG. 5 illustrates an apparatus 500 for forwarding an incoming frame in a network switch, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The apparatus 500 includes converting means 510 for converting a MAC destination address and less significant bits of a VLAN identifier (VID) from an incoming frame into a 12 bit address resolution table (ARL) address which is used to access an address resolution table upon receiving the incoming frame. The apparatus 500 also includes comparing means 520 for comparing an ARL VID and a MAC address from the address resolution table with the MAC destination address and less significant bits of the VID from the incoming frame to determine if there is an ARL hit. If there is an ARL hit, the apparatus 500 includes means 530 for using an action code in the address resolution table to determine at least one egress port to which the incoming frame is sent. The apparatus 500 further includes means 540 for using the less significant bits of the VID of the incoming frame to access an entry in a VLAN table. The apparatus 500 includes comparing means 550 for comparing a VLAN VID from the VLAN table with more significant bits of the VID of the incoming frame. If the VLAN VID is the same as the more significant bits of the VID of the incoming frame, there is a VLAN match. The apparatus 500 includes forwarding means 560 for forwarding the incoming frame to at least one port based on at least one of the ARL hit and the VLAN match. The apparatus

also includes dropping means 570 for dropping the incoming frame if there is not a VLAN match and there is not an ARL hit.

Please amend paragraph [0024] in the original specification as follows:

~~[0024]~~[0025] Although the invention has been described based upon these preferred embodiments, it would be apparent to those of skilled in the art that certain modifications, variations, and alternative constructions would be apparent, while remaining within the spirit and scope of the invention. For example, the specific configurations of packet flow are discussed with respect to a switch configuration such as that of SOC 10. It should be noted, however, that other switch configurations could be used to take advantage of the invention. In order to determine the metes and bounds of the invention, therefore, reference should be made to the appended claims.

IN THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 5 is added as described below by presenting New Sheet as attached hereto.

In the New Sheet of FIG. 5, includes a description of the features recited in original claims 15 and 18, as filed. No new matter has been added.